

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 05978 01 OF 02 081507Z

45

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 077034

O 081050Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1726

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 05978

EXDIS

FOR SNEIDER FROM SHOESMITH

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL PFOR TECH JA

SUBJ: OKINAWA VOA RELAY STATION

REF: STATE 088898

1. I HAD A LONG BUT INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION WITH OKAWARA MAY 8 CONCERNING GOJ REINTERPRETATION OF OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO VOA OPERATIONS PAST 1977. ALSO PRESENT WERE SCHMITZ AND FIRST NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION HEAD MATSUURA.

2. I REVIEWED FOR OKAWARA IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL USE NEGOTIATING RECORD OF CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN YOU AND YOSHINO AND MORI ON MAY 1, 6, 7 AND 12, 1971 (TOKYO 4006, 4183, AND 4348). I EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THAT THIS RECORD AND MOST PARTICULARLY YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MORI OF MAY 12 MAKES IT EXPLICITLY CLEAR THAT AN UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN REACHED WITH RESPECT TO THE AGREED MINUTE REGARDING ARTICLE VIII OF THE OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR CONTINUED VOA OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977 IN THE EVENT THAT THE US ELECTED TO CONSTRUCT NEW FACILITIES AND SUCH CONSTRUCTION WAS NOT COMPLETED BY THAT DATE. WITH RESPECT TO THE MEANING OF "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" I STRESSED THAT OUR RECORD MADE CLEAR THAT THIS WAS INTENDED TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINGENCY THAT CONSTRUCTION COULD NOT BE COMPLETED BY 1977 AND NOWHERE SUGGESTED THAT THIS PROVISION WAS LIMITED TO "NATURAL

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TOKYO 05978 01 OF 02 081507Z

CALAMATIES." I FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT IT IS CLEAR FROM

OUR RECORD THAT MORI HAD UNDERTAKEN TO SEEK DIET AUTHORIZATION IF NECESSARY TO PERMIT CONTINUATION OF VOA OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977. FINALLY, I EMPHASIZED STRONGLY THAT I FELT A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM RAISED BY THE INTERPRETATION OF "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" BY GOJ SPOKESMAN IN THE DIET DURING DEBATE IN 1971 IS CENTRAL TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CONSULTATIONS JUST INITIATED UNDER ARTICLE VIII. I PRESSED MR. OKAWARA TO REGARD SUCH RESOLUTION AS A HIGHLY URGENT MATTER.

3. OKAWAGA SAID THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE NEGOTIATING RECORD DID NOT COINCIDE WITH THAT OF THE USG BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THUS FAR NO RECORD OF YOUR MAY 12 CONVERSATION WITH MORI HAS BEEN FOUND. MATSUURA READ PORTIONS OF THEIR ADMITTEDLY LIMITED RECORD OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH YOSHINO PRIOR TO THAT DATE, NOTING THAT THEY DID NOT CONTAIN ANY REFERENCES WHICH MADE CESSATION OF VOA OPERATIONS CONDITIONAL UPON COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION OF A SUBSTITUTE FACILITY. OKAWARA INSISTED THAT CONSIDERING THE INTERNAL DEBATE WITHIN GOJ AT TIME OF OKINAWA NEGOTIATIONS AND PARTICULARLY THE INSISTENCE OF THE MINISTRY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS THAT VOA OPERATIONS CEASE AS OF THE REVERSION DATE, HE THOUGHT IT "ALMOST INCONCEIVABLE" THAT ANYONE ON THE JAPANESE SIDE COULD HAVE CONTEMPLATED SEEKING DIET AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXTENSION OF THOSE OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977. MATSUURA COMMENTED AND OKAWARA AGREED THAT IT WAS EQUALLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW IKAWA, WHO HAD BEEN INTIMATELY INVOLVED IN THE VOA DISCUSSIONS, COULD HAVE MISTAKEN IN DEFINING DURING DIET QUESTIONING "UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES" AS REFERRING TO "NATURAL CALAMITIES AND SO FORTH (NADO)." MATSUURA CONCEDED THAT "AND SO FORTH" DID GIVE GOJ SOME LATITUDE IN THE INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREED MINUTE. OKAWARA, HOWEVER, ASSERTED THAT HE DID NOT SEE HOW GOJ COULD DEFEND TO DIET A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF VOA OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977 ON GROUNDS THAT USG HAD NOT OBTAINED NECESSARY BUDGET APPROPRIATION OR PREPARED PLANS IN TIME TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION BY 1977. I REITERATED THAT OUR NEGOTIATING RECORD MADE CLEAR THAT IN 1971 THE US SIDE HAD EXPRESSED UNCERTAINTY THAT CONSTRUCTION COULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN FIVE-YEAR PERIOD AND THAT VICE MINISTER MORI HAD REPEATEDLY STATED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TOKYO 05978 01 OF 02 081507Z

THAT GOJ RECOGNIZED THAT POSSIBILITY AND WAS PREPARED TO GIVE US ASSURANCES THAT VOA WOULD NOT HAVE TO CEASE OPERATIONS UNTIL NEW FACILITY CONSTRUCTED.

4. OKAWARA AGREED TO MY SUGGESTION THAT HE MAKE A FURTHER SEARCH OF THE FILES IN AN EFFORT TO LOCATE A RECORD OF THE MAY 12 CONVERSATION AND ALSO THAT HE CHECK THIS MATTER PERSONALLY WITH MORI, YOSHINO AND IKAWA. HE STATED,

HOWEVER, THAT HE DOUBTED THAT THE RESULT OF THIS CHECKING WOULD BE TO CONFIRM THE USG NEGOTIATING RECORD. THROUGHOUT, OKAWARA REFERRED TO THE ASSUMPTION WITHIN THE GOJ THAT VOA OPERATIONS WOULD CEASE BY 1977 AND HE SEEMED RELUCTANT TO CONTEMPLATE A SITUATION IN WHICH GOJ WOULD GO BEFORE DIET TO SEEK LEGISLATIVE AUTHORIZATION TO PERMIT OPERATIONS BEYOND THAT DATE. I STATED THAT FOR MY PART I FOUND IT INCONCEIVABLE THAT IN THE EVENT THE USG DECIDED TO TERMINATE VOA OPERATIONS IN OKINAWA IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOJ REQUEST, GOJ WOULD INSIST ON TRANSMISSION CUT-OFF BY MAY 13, 1977 EVEN IF ALTERNATE FACILITIES WERE NOT READY TO OPERATE. I SAID THAT SUCH AN ATTITUDE WOULD BE ENTIRELY OUT OF KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT AND SUBSTANCE OF CLOSE COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 05978 02 OF 02 081203Z

45

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 075022

O 081050Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1727

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 TOKYO 05978

E X D I S

5. IN ADDITIONAL AND SEPARATE PRIVATE MEETING WITH OKAWARA ON MAY 8 I TOLD HIM THAT OUR CONCERN FOR THIS ISSUE IS NOT LIMITED TO THE PROBLEM OF VOA OPERATIONS BEYOND 1977. I POINTED OUT THAT ON TWO OTHER OCCASIONS WITHIN THIS YEAR -- I.E., THE GOJ'S EFFORT TO "REINTERPRET" THE TERMS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING AIR SERVICES AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S "UNIFIED" POSITION CONCERNING GOJ OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE JFAP, THE GOJ SEEMED TO BE ATTEMPTING TO WALK AWAY FROM AGREEMENTS REACHED WITH THE UNITED STATES. I SAID THIS HAS RAISED DOUBTS WITHIN THE USG CONCERNING THE GOOD FAITH AND CREDIBILITY OF THE GOJ, DOUBTS WHICH COULD ONLY BE REINFORCED BY THIS DISAGREEMENT OVER THE MEANING OF THE AGREED MINUTE CONCERNING VOA OPERATIONS. SUCH A SITUATION, I EMPHASIZED, WAS HARDLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GOJ AND IS PREJUDICIAL TO CONTINUED

COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. OKAWARA DEMURRED AT ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE GOJ WAS GOING BACK ON ITS AGREEMENTS BUT AGAIN ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD GIVE MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE AT HAND IN AN EFFORT TO REACH SOME SOLUTION.

6. I THINK THAT BEFORE RAISING THE MATTER WITH TOGO I SHOULD GIVE OKAWARA SOME TIME TO CHECK WITH MORI AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN THE VOA DISCUSSIONS AS WELL AS TO THINK OVER WHAT I HAVE TOLD HIM ABOUT OUR VIEWS. MY PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO WAIT UNTIL THE EARLY PART OF NEXT WEEK BEFORE BRACING HIM AGAIN ON THIS MATTER. IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE ALERTED OKAWARA TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT ANY FURTHER CONSULTATIONS UNDER ARTICLE VIII MIGHT HAVE TO AWAIT RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TOKYO 05978 02 OF 02 081203Z

SHOESMITH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, RADIO BROADCASTING, RADIO STATIONS, RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO05978
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740111-0955
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740563/aaaacehc.tel
Line Count: 191
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 088898
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OKINAWA VOA RELAY STATION
TAGS: SCUL, PFOR, TECH, JA, US, YQ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005